

comprising an acoustic pick-up and a speaker in a case, the headgear further comprising:

5 an external principle shell including two lateral wall portions covering and corresponding to zones occupied by ears of a user; and

connection means to attach and position said case, acoustic pickup, and speaker inside of said headgear
10 in one of the zones occupied by the ear of the user, the connection means including a removable connection between the case of the communication device and the headgear.

2. (amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication according to claim 1 wherein the case further includes:

5 an extension that defines a connection tab which is engaged in a lateral guide of complementary shape in said protective headgear.

5. (amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 2, wherein the lateral guide is integral with a support piece attached to the external
5 shell of said headgear.

6. (amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 5, wherein the headgear includes:

a deformable lining comprising a headband
5 retaining a deformable partition, said headband being fixed to the headgear by the lateral guide which holds the communication device.

7. (twice amended) A protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device comprising:

5 an external principle shell which is shaped to conform with a user's head and having lateral wall

Sub C4
portions which define ear zones that cover ears of an associated user;

a case detachably attached inside of the headgear within the one of the ear zones;

10 a speaker disposed inside the case within the ear zone; and

BZ an acoustic pick-up disposed inside the case within the ear zone.

8. (twice amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 7 further including:

a chin-strap having an attachment means; and

5 a connection cable connected to the case and retained at the headgear in its center portion by an attachment device which is configured to interconnect with the attachment means of the chin-strap.

9. (twice amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 7, wherein the case comprises:

5 two slots, a first cylindrical slot for receiving the acoustic pick-up and a second cylindrical slot for receiving the speaker.

10. (amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 9, wherein the acoustic pick-up is located above the speaker.

Sub C5
BZ 11. (amended) A protective headgear comprising:
a shell having an interior and an exterior;
a deformable structure mounted to the shell interior for supporting the shell on a user's head, the
5 deformable structure and the shell defining ear receiving areas;

at least one tab receiving guide mounted to the interior of the shell adjacent one of the ear receiving areas;

33 10 a case having a tab which is selectively engagable with the guide for removably mounting the case to the shell adjacent the ear receiving areas;

a microphone/speaker assembly mounted in the case; and

15 a transmitter/receiver assembly electrically connected with the microphone/speaker assembly.

12. (unamended) The protective headgear according to claim 11 further including:

a chin strap connected with the shell;

20 an electrical cable connected between the transmitter/receiver assembly and microphone/speaker assembly;

25 a cable guide which is (i) releasably interconnected to an intermediate portion of the electrical cable and (ii) releasably attached to the chin strap.

REMARKS

A marked-up version of the amended claims showing the changes is attached to this amendment.

This amendment is responsive to the Supplemental Office Action dated February 22, 2001, which supersedes the previous First Office Action dated January 22, 2001. Claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are presented for examination.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) as not showing the claimed RF transmitter/receiver assembly. The claims have been amended to remove reference to an RF transmitter/receiver assembly, thus obviating this objection.